

Devotees in the UK held their first ever Vani Retreat. The retreat was hosted by the [Hare Krishna Centre](#) in Leicester. Visnu Murti Prabhu, who runs the Bhaktivedanta Library Services (BLS), conducted the two day introductory workshop into [Vanipedia](#).

[Vanipedia](#) is a momentuous work much like the famous [Wikipedia](#). It is meant to bring Srila Prabhupada's teachings not only to the devotee community but to all people around the world. The project was started in 2008 and is hosting now 6,685 categories, 18,018 pages and 284,638 quotes. Once completed it is estimate that Vaniquotes will have around 7,000 categories, 250,000 pages, and somewhere between 2 to 3 million quotes. The project, which is open source, is managed by a vast pool of volunteers from all around the world.

Vanipedia is a dynamic, interactive encyclopedia of all of Srila Prabhupada's words (vani). It aims to explore, discover and comprehensively compile Srila Prabhupada's teachings from every angle of vision, and present them in accessible and easily understandable ways.

There are seven petals in the whole Vanipedia project. At the moment only [Vanisource](#), where one can read all of Srila Prabhupada's books, lectures, conversations and letters, and [Vaniquotes](#)

, where all of Srila Prabhupada's teachings are comprehensively mapped, are populated with content.



Follow these links for a short introduction to the other petals; [Vanimedia](#) , [Vanictionary](#) , [Vanibooks](#) ,

and

[Vaniversity](#)

. Vanipedia will offer a continual worldwide platform for Srila Prabhupada to preach and teach the

[science of Krishna consciousness](#)

. Devotees felt the retreat was a full success and many joined the ever increasing team of compilers.

[Get in touch](#)

if you want to become a compiler. We can train you in every aspect of the programme.

What participants had to say

The Vanipedia workshop on Sunday went really well. Visnu Murti's enthusiasm is positively infectious. This project is sort of a contradiction. On the one hand it is a huge undertaking, which will eventually result in a fantastic resource of all things Srila Prabhupada ever said and wrote. However, it requires individuals and groups of individuals to make it a success. The whole point is to get as many people involved as possible, the more the merrier. I am personally glad to have received the initial training to start doing quotes and pages. Overall it is all very

straight forward. Anyone with a little bit of experience on a computer would be able to grasp the whole procedure relatively easy. (*Nitai Charan dasa*)

I feel I am beginning to create my own connection with Srila Prabhupada's teachings. I feel honoured to be part of Vanipedia and hope that more people see it as a way of devotional service, spreading the joys of Krishna consciousness around the world for all to enjoy and learn.

Gauranga Sundara Das had told me about Vanipedia a while ago at our Gita class, but I had no idea what to expect. I was introduced by Visnu Murti, who drove non stop from Belgium, having only 2 hours of sleep. He was a totally inspiring speaker. After agreeing to be trained on Vanipedia a whole new world has opened up for me. Not only do I train and have privileges to set up others, but I am also adding to Vanipedia every day. For me this is the best way to learn about Srila Prabhupada, his teachings, his philosophy, his lectures and so many amazing stories about Krishna. I feel like I am getting to know him as my friend who is very much alive today.

The Vanipedia is allowing Prabhupada to be part of my life as much as I am brought into his world . With the training I received from Visnu Murti I am now a confident contributor, having chosen to contribute Srila Prabhupada's connection with Krishna quotes. (*Dharma Rathod*)

Hare Krishna Centre - Leicester, UK - First Vani Retreat in UK

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The Vani retreat was interesting and fun. Visnu Murti really knows his subject. Even though I personally am a complete novice at computing I feel more empowered and it's a great way to learn more about Srila Prabhupada and Krishna consciousness. (*Julie Isaaks*)